

Pastor Gabe Stalnaker (00:06):

Turn with me if you would, back to Philippians chapter three. Philippians chapter three. Every time I'm led to preach from this chapter, I get so excited every time the Lord leads me to this chapter and I feel like this is the message of the hour. I just get so excited because every line in this chapter is a glorious message in and of itself. Every line, everything that's said right here, I come back to this all the time because this resonates with me. You know what I mean? This resonates with me. This chapter speaks to me. I pray it'll speak to all of us this morning. Let's see if the Lord will really let us enter into what he's saying. Philippians three verse one. It says, finally my brethren, my brethren, he's speaking to the brethren, he's speaking to. This is written to the elect. God's chosen God's sheep. That's who he's talking to, God's sheep. And he said, rejoice in the Lord. He said, rejoice in the Lord. I titled this message the character of God's elect. People I might change that to rejoice in the Lord. Brethren, rejoice in the Lord. We could stay there forever. We will. We will rejoice in the Lord

(02:13):

If any man glory, if any man rejoice. Let him rejoice in the Lord. Finally, my brethren, dear brethren, dear sheep of God, dear elect people, this is God's word to you. Rejoice in the Lord no matter what sorrow or what trial a child of God is going through, he or she can always rejoice in the Lord. Go back to the Lord, get back to the Lord, whatever's going on, just go back to the Lord. Rejoice in the Lord. David said in Psalm 103, forget not all his benefits, just dwell on his benefits. David said, he has forgiven our iniquities. How glorious is that? He has healed our diseases. We talk about all these dear loved ones who are carrying these diseases. We all have the disease of sin and that produces these issues of health diseases. Well, if we are healed of 'em here, God did that. He said, I kill, I make a life. I wound, I heal. God did that. But no matter what one day, real soon he's gonna heal us of all our diseases, no more diseases. David said. He has redeemed us from destruction. We by nature were running headfirst into destruction. And he said, Nope.

(03:53):

He has crowned us with loving kindness and tender mercy just dwell on everything we have in him. Just dwell on what we have in him. If we ever find ourselves looking for something and needing something to rejoice in, we can always rejoice in the Lord. And again, I say rejoice. Paul said in verse one, finally, my brethren rejoice in the Lord. And then he went on to say, to write the same things to you. To me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe. That's what I love about the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the gospel that rejoices in the Lord. It's so safe. It is so safe. That's what God's people feel in Christ safe. That's what the gospel message of the person of Christ and the work of Christ and the glory of Christ is. It's safe, safe. Paul said to write these same things to you, and I say to preach these same things to you. I don't have anything new to preach. I have nothing new. To preach these same things to you is not grievous to me. I actually love it. The the, the more the same it is, the more clearly the same it is the more I love it.

(05:43):

I get so excited to preach that same old story, tell me the same old story. I really do. It's not grievous to me because so safe. This is so safe. Verse two, he said, beware of dogs, beware of evil workers. Beware of the concision. There's a reference. I have a sinner column, a sinner margin in my Bible, and there's a reference to Isaiah 56 which calls these dogs there, it calls 'em dumb dogs, mute dogs and is talking about false prophets, false preachers which do not preach and clearly declare the safe message of Christ. They do not warn men and women of the dangers of not preaching and hearing and believing the safe message of Christ alone. Christ alone. Stop at Christ. Don't go any farther. He said they don't do that. Comparing them to dumb dogs. He said they don't bark, they don't speak, they don't warn. They

just lie down in the, in the false religion of man. You know that talks about the the loving to slumber wool being pulled over eyes and they have closed ears to the warning of God's truth. They promote and love the evil works of men

[\(07:32\)](#):

And they only bring harm to men and women's souls. That's what comes from that harm to men and women's souls. Paul said, beware. Beware. This is safe. Beware. Verse three, he said, for we are the circumcision which worship God in the spirit and rejoice in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh. Now this is the verse I wanna dwell on for a minute, and this is the verse that I want us to see that everything in this chapter is in light of everything in this chapter,

Speaker 2 [\(08:15\)](#):

And

Pastor Gabe Stalnaker [\(08:15\)](#):

I wanna dwell on this because it brings so much comfort to me. I love this verse of scripture every time I have doubt, every time I need reassurance in knowing that I'm a child of God. When I read this verse of scripture, my heart cries. Amen. Amen. Verse three says, for we are the circumcision. That means we are God's people. I wanna be one of God's people. We are those who have been given faith to truly believe we are those who have been called to be the people of his choosing. He says, which worship God in the spirit and rejoice in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh. What is it to worship God in the spirit? What is it to worship God in the spirit? It is to end the heart in the depth of our soul, in our innermost being of sincerity and truth, not lip service, not what we want people to believe about us. I mean what's inside here between me and God? It is to write inside here, worship God. What is it to worship God? It's to insincerity and truth. Bow down to God. Bow down to God.

[\(10:00\)](#):

Honor God, praise God. Lift up and magnify God and not man God and not man. It is to worship God for who he is and for what he is. It's to worship God in His sovereignty because that's who he is and what he is. That's what we just heard, sovereign over all things. It's to worship God and his sovereignty over all men. It's to worship God and his sovereignty over all circumstances. It's to worship God. It's to acknowledge his hand and his will and his purpose and his providence in all things, everything to worship God in a nutshell is this is to worship God. It's to worship God. Verse three, Paul said, for we are the circumcision which worship God in the spirit and rejoice in Christ Jesus. What is it to rejoice in Christ Jesus? It is to in the heart, in the depth of the soul, in the innermost being of our sincerity and truths. Truth, rejoice in who Christ is and what he did and why he did it and for whom he did it. Do we not rejoice in for whom he did it? Well, he did it for all of the, you know, the Bible scholars of the world, all of the, the doctor attained.

[\(12:02\)](#):

Could we rejoice in that He did it for everyone who, who honestly has not committed sin, honestly kept themselves from, could we rejoice in that we rejoice in who he accomplished his work for? We rejoice in how accomplished it is, how complete it is, how secure we are in him. We rejoice in that who is Christ? We rejoice in Christ Jesus. Who is Christ. He is God almighty. Manifest in the flesh, the God that we worship. We worship God, the God that we worship, the very God that we bow down to the God who we praise and glorify for His sovereignty over all things. Jesus Christ is that God manifest in the flesh? What did he do? See if the Lord will let us get ahold of this. What did he do? He purged us. Have you ever purged anything? You ever just gotten fed up and said, I'm purging this. He purged us. He cleaned

us. He washed us from all of our sins in his own blood. He took our guilt from us. He took our wrath from us. He took our punishment from us. He took our death from us. What did he do? This is something to rejoice in. He took our death from us

[\(14:09\)](#):

By taking our sin from us in his own body. He waged war on our sin. Here's what he did. He waged war on our sin. The sin that invaded us, besieged us, conquered us. He waged war on that sin and he won. That's what he did. He got the victory and then he gave that victory to us by substituting our place with his. I'll never get over substitution. I'll never get over substitution. Once a sinner sees substitution, that sinner will never get over it. He earned a righteousness for us that we could not earn for ourselves. And the reason is because all of our righteousnesses, our filthy rags before God, man at his best state, when God sees a man's best state, God says altogether vanity couldn't do it. He earned a holy purity for us that we who are completely infected with a loathsome disease could not earn for ourselves. This is what he did. He earned godliness for the ungodly. He earned acceptance for the rejected. He earned adoption into the family of God for strangers who were scattered abroad. That's what he did.

[\(15:56\)](#):

That's what he accomplished for his people. And here's the thing about it. It is indeed accomplished. It is accomplished. The spirit of God gives assurance of that very thing to the troubled souls of his people. Every time a child of God becomes worried or troubled over his state before the judgment thrown of God, if that ever happens, if sin ever gets a hold of us and really takes hold of us and and, and we are aware of it and we think, oh, I've sinned against God. I'm such a sinner against God, and we worry about our state before the judgment thrown of God. Every time that happens to a child of God, the spirit comes and whispers into the soul lifted up. Was he to die? It is finished. Was his cry now in heaven exalted high and all of his people cry. Hallelujah. What a savior.

[\(16:58\)](#):

What a savior. I've told you that story before of uh, a man and woman in the late 18 hundreds. They traveled over to England and while they were there, they wanted to go hear Charles Spurgeon preach. They had they had read his books and read his writings and they wanted to go visit his church, metropolitan Tabernacle and hear him preach. So they went on a Sunday morning and there were, they got there too late. There were so many people trying to get in, they were turning people away. And can you imagine what a problem to have? Can you imagine if people were lined up in that front door waiting to get in to hear God's word? But anyway, they got turned away. They couldn't make it in. So they went down the street. There was another church down the street and they, they got in and sat down and the pastor, the preacher of that congregation, he was a very, um, well-studied man, a very educated man, a a wonderful orator, very charismatic. And after the message was over, the, the man and his wife walked out of that place saying, what a sermon. What a sermon. My what? A sermon.

[\(18:29\)](#):

That night they went back to metropolitan tabernacle. And this time they got in Sunday night, they got in and they listened to Brother Charles Spurgeon preach the glorious gospel of the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. And they both walked out of there after the service was over with tears in their eyes crying. What a savior. Oh my soul. What a savior. What a savior. Hallelujah. What a savior. Verse three says, we are the circumcision which worship God in the spirit and rejoice in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh. That does not say a little confidence in the flesh. That does not say, we are hoping that very soon we will have confidence in our flesh. That does not say our main focus and goal is to strive to have confidence in the flesh. It says we are the circumcision who have no, none zip not one molecule of confidence in our own flesh. All of our confidence is in Christ's flesh. All of our confidence is

in his body and his blood and his life and his walk and his death and his deeds and his goodness, his alone, his alone, all of our confidence. His alone.

[\(20:24\)](#):

What do you mean by that? Paul? Here he is writing to the Philippians. What do you mean by that Paul? He said, well, let me explain it this way, verse four. He said, though I might also have confidence in the flesh if any other man think it that he has whereof, he might trust in the flesh. I more what he's saying is you think you see obedience to the law in your flesh. You think you see a commendable way according to the commandments of God in your flesh. He said, I more verse five, circumcised. The eighth day the law said to do that. He said, I did it or it was done to me of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin. The law said you had to be that. He said, I was. I was of the children of Israel and Hebrew of the Hebrews as touching the law of Pharisee, whatever it said to do or be if it said to live this way, he said, I lived it. If it said to think this way, I thought it. If it said to act this way, I acted it. I was a God commanded law abiding Pharisee. That's what he said about himself.

[\(21:58\)](#):

Verse six, concerning zeal persecuting the church. I judged, I criticized, I looked down on touching the righteousness, which is in the law, blameless good deeds, good deeds, good deeds upon good deeds. He said, my inner man and my outer man was right with God or so I thought. So I thought verse seven he said, but, but in Galatians one he said, I thrived in religion. I was more zealous than all of them. But when it pleased God, he stopped me in my tracks. He knocked me off of my high horse of religion. He blinded me by his glory, by blinding me to myself. He blinded me to myself and he revealed his son in me, his son, who I saw to be the true obedience of the law, his son who I saw to truly be everything God requires us to be. Christ is that his son who truly lived the way God requires us to live and think and act truly. And Paul said, when I saw that I died to me, I died to me. I died in my own eyes. When I saw Christ and his goodness and his purity and his righteousness in his glory,

[\(23:48\)](#):

I saw me no longer. That's what happens in God's people. We see us no longer. And now verse seven, he said, what things were gained to me, those I counted lost for Christ? He said, the very deeds of the law that I saw to be gained to me does that, do we enter into that the very deeds of the law that I saw to be gained, gained before God. This right here is gain to God. He said, I now actually see it all to be loss trash. That's what it means. Worthless trash for Christ compared to Christ in light of Christ. If it's gonna take my eyes off of Christ, if it's gonna take my eyes off of Christ. Verse eight, he said, yay doubtless. And I count all things lost for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things and do count them, but dung that I may win Christ and be found in him not having my own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith. That means his righteousness, not mine,

[\(25:23\)](#):

His goodness, his good deeds, not mine. Verse 10, he said that I may know him, that I may know him. That's my goal. That I may know him, that it may be all about him, that I might have true union with him, that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings being made conformable unto his death. I pray I died in him. That's what he's saying. I pray I died in him. I pray God judged me in him and forgave me in him, and I attained the resurrection of the dead in him. What is attaining the resurrection of the dead? It's attaining Christ. He said, I am the resurrection.

[\(26:24\)](#):

I am the life. Paul said, I want to know him. I want to have union with him. I want to attain him. Verse 12, he said, not as though I had already attained either were already perfect. Paul said, I know that in my flesh there still dwells no good thing and that'll be the case for me till I leave this flesh. But he said, I follow after if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ, Jesus life, salvation in him. Verse 13, brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind my works, my law, my bondage of the flesh, and reaching forth unto those things which are before Christ. Rest, peace, comfort, eternity with him.

[\(27:34\)](#):

Verse 14, he said, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. He's the mark, he's the goal, he is the prize. Verse 15, he said, let us therefore, as many as be perfect, made perfect. That means mature, complete, holy, righteous, as many as have been made perfect in him, made perfect by him. Let us therefore as many as be perfect, be thus minded. And if in anything you be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. He will either reveal it in mercy now or judgment later, mercy now or judgment later, verse 16. Nevertheless, whereto, we have already attained. Let us walk by the same rule. Let us mind the same thing. Brethren, be followers together of me and mark them which walk. So as you have us for an example, for many walk of whom I have told you often and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly and whose glory is in their shame, who mined earthly things, stuck on earthly things.

[\(29:12\)](#):

Verse 20 says, for our conversation is in heaven from when also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. That's where the conversation of God's people is. Brethren, it's in heaven where we look for the Savior, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Verse 21 says, who shall change our vile body? He's the one who will change our vile body. That is his work and he will do it. Who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working, whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. That means this is the sovereign God and he is able to do everything he promised he would do for his people. And we believe him and we wait for him. We look for him. We trust him. If any man, glory, let Him glory in the Lord. That's what he's saying.

[\(30:16\)](#):

Christ is all. That's what he's saying. Christ is everything and all who hope in him are going to attain the perfection that he has secured for us. In the end, he has secured holy perfection and all who hope in him are going to attain it. They're going to receive it. He said, take comfort in him. Rest in him. Rejoice in him finely brethren, rejoice in the Lord. Rejoice in the Lord because we've been allowed to, we've been given faith to we. We worship God in the Spirit. We rejoice in Christ Jesus and we have no confidence in this flesh that comforts my soul. Amen. Alright.